

Listing of Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

5 Claim 1 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet with at least ~~two~~ three segments, said tablet containing a dose of drug or drugs, in which:
 said tablet includes ~~two layers and three or more segments or at least three layers forming three or more segments wherein at least one inactive segment consisting of one or more excipients known for use in immediate release pharmaceutical formulations, said inactive segment being~~ is adapted to be broken for dividing the dose prior to administration ~~and comprises an immediate release inactive composition and at least two active segments each consisting of excipients known for use in immediate release pharmaceutical formulations and a pharmacologically effective dose of the same drug or combination of drugs all segments that contain a pharmacologically effective dose of a drug or drug are immediate release segments that contain the same drug (or combination of drugs at the same ratio),~~
10 wherein the three-segment ~~three-layer~~ tablet has a height greater than its width ~~in the tablet die~~ and the inactive segment ~~is disposed between the two active segments and~~ has a height greater than the combined height of the active layers.

15 Claims 2-4 (canceled).

20 Claim 5 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 ~~2~~, where a score, perforations, printed marks, or gelatin or a combination of thereof, are placed on or within said ~~inactive~~ second segment and are predominantly horizontally oriented to guide tablet breaking through said ~~inactive~~ second segment substantially without breaking through said ~~first segment or said third active segments~~ segment.

25 Claim 6 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 2 wherein the second segment contains a combination of the drug in said first segment with another drug or drugs not present in said first segment.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended). An A immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 2, wherein the concentration of the drug in each of said first and third active segments is substantially the same.

5 Claim 9 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 8 in which the quantity of drug in each of said first and third active segments is substantially the same.

Claim 10 (canceled).

10 Claim 11 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 2 having in said second segment no detectable drug or the same drug which is in said first segment in a pharmacologically ineffective amount, said tablet also containing a third segment having a different drug from the drug that is present in said first segment, said third segment being physically and chemically compatible with said first segment.

15 Claim 12 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 3 that contains a separation mark selected from the group consisting of a score, indicia, printed indicia, a perforation or a band in a second segment or at an interface between segments.

20 Claim 13 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 2 wherein said second segment has a different drug than the drug in said first segment and also includes a third segment having the same drug that is present in said first segment.

25 Claim 14 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 13 wherein said second segment has a substantially horizontal separation mark placed on said second segment, along a side of said tablet parallel to the vertical axis of said tablet, said vertical axis being the same as the vertical axis of the tablet die in which the tablet is made.

Claim 15 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 2, that is derived from three vertically disposed granulations that form three vertically disposed segments, a first segment at the top, a second segment in the middle and a third segment at the bottom and having a substantially horizontal separation mark placed substantially horizontally on or within said second segment.

Claim 16 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 2 in which said first segment and said third segment are substantially compositionally identical.

Claim 17 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 2 in which said first segment and said third segment contain substantially identical quantities of the same drug or drugs, where the amount or ratio of said drug or drugs is the same in both segments.

Claim 18 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 in which said inactive second segment is of a color which permits visual identification of said inactive second segment apart from said first segment.

Claim 19 (currently amended). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 in which said inactive second segment contains a separation mark.

Claim 20 (original). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 19 in which said second segment contains indicia.

Claim 21 (original). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 20 in which said second segment contains printed indicia.

Claim 22 (original). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in any one of claims 19, 20 or 21 in which breaking said tablet, when guided by color, scoring, or printed indicia yields a tablette having a predetermined quantity of drug.

Claim 23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 11 is provided with a separation mark.

Claim 25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (canceled).

5 Claims 27 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet in which the tablet is produced sequentially from a first granulation, a second granulation that contains no detectable drug or a pharmacologically inactive amount of a drug and a third active granulation that is provided with a different active drug or drugs than said first granulation, wherein: (a) all granulations in the tablet are physically and chemically compatible; and/or (b) the segment derived from the second granulation has an effective height of greater than 4 mm.

10

Claim 28 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which said segment derived from the second granulation has an effective height of from 3-4 mm.

15 Claim 29 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which said segment derived from the second granulation has an effective height of from 1.5-3 mm.

Claim 30 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which the tablet consists of three segments.

20 Claim 31 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which said second granulation has an amount of drug or drugs which is pharmacologically inactive.

25 Claim 32 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which other granulations having no detectable active drug or a pharmacologically inactive amount of an active drug are interposed between said first and third granulations.

Claim 33 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which said first, second and third granulations have colors which allow for the identification of each tablet segment.

5 Claim 34 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 27 in which a segment formed from said second granulation is provided with a separation mark that without limitation may be a substantially horizontally oriented score, indicia, or perforations.

Claim 35 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 34 in which a segment formed from said second granulation is provided with a score.

10 Claim 36 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 34 in which said segment formed from said second granulation is provided with indicia.

Claim 37 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 34 in which breaking through said segment formed from said second granulation provides accurate separation of said first segment from said third segment

15 Claim 38 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 wherein said core tablet forms a tablet structure selected from the group consisting of A-I-B-I-A, A-I-B-I-B, A-I-B-I-C, or A-B-I-C wherein A, B, C and I represent mutually different segments that are vertically disposed upon each other and wherein A, B and C contain an active drug or drugs and I is a segment without a pharmacologically effective quantity of any drug.

20

Claim 39 (withdrawn). An immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 38 in which each of segments A, B, C and/or I have either a color or indicia which identifies each of segments A, B, I, and C as being different segments.

25

Claim 40 (withdrawn). A method of breaking an immediate release pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claims 12, 13 or 19 which comprises breaking said tablet at said separation mark.

Claim 41 (withdrawn). A method of administering a partial dose of a drug contained in a pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claims 12, 13 or 19 comprising breaking said pharmaceutical tablet at said separation mark to form two or more tablettes and administering at least one of said tablettes to a patient.

5 Claim 42-(withdrawn). A method of administering a partial dose of a drug contained in a pharmaceutical tablet, said method comprising

breaking a pharmaceutical tablet which comprises at least two segments wherein:

(a) a first undivided segment having at least one score, said segment having a score containing a pharmacologically effective amount of a drug or drugs and;

10 (b) a second segment that adjoins said first undivided segment wherein said second segment contains from an undetectable amount to a maximum of 10% of the concentration of the same drug or drugs in said first segment, said method comprising breaking said tablet at said score to form two or more tablettes and administering at least one of said tablettes to a patient.

15 Claim 43 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical tablet as defined in claim 1 in which said drug or drugs is or are pharmacologically effective in the treatment of cardiovascular conditions, psychiatric conditions, diabetes, thyroid disorders, pain or thrombotic disorders.